

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-14 are presently active in this case, Claims 1, 2, 3, 5-7 and 9-10 having been canceled and Claims 13 and 14 having been added by the present amendment, and Claim 4 having previously been canceled.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1 and 9-11 were objected to because of informalities, Claims 1-3 and 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Loxley et al et al (US 46,778,633B1, hereinafter called "Loxley"), Claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC 1039a) as being unpatentable over Loxley, Claims 11-12 were allowed, and Claim 9 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was otherwise indicated as including allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 11-12 and the indication that Claim 9 includes allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, and to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, Claims 1-3 and 5-10 have been canceled and replaced by new Claims 13-14, discussed hereinafter.

In response to the objection to Claims 11, Claim 11 has been amended to recite "a controller" as suggested at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action in the discussion of the objections to Claims 9 and 11. Accordingly, the objection to Claim 11 is believed to have been overcome, and Claims 11 and 12 are therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

New Claim 13 corresponds to a combination of features stated in original Claims 1 and 9, further clarified to recite functionality in terms of "a controller" as suggested at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action. Claim 13, like Claim 11, also clarifies a point of the

invention with regard to the recitation that "after a set time related to the service live of the target has elapsed, [the controller is configured] to energize another set of electromagnets," consistent with the explanation at page 10, line 26 to page 11, line 4 of the specification.

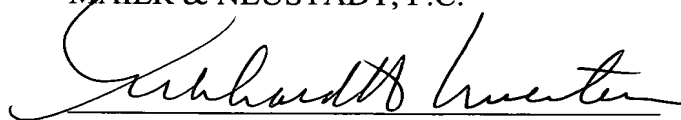
In view of the indication that Claim 9 includes allowable subject matter, it is believed that new Claim 13 also defines allowable subject matter.

New Claim 14 corresponds to Claim 12 but depends from new Claim 13. Claim 13 finds support in original Claim 10, for example. No new matter has been added by the introduction of new Claims 13 and 14, which in view of the indication of allowable subject matter, likewise are believed to be allowable.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)